

**PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY**  
**SPECIMEN TYPE**  
January 1, 2005

**A. MICROBIOLOGY**

Acid fast bacillus, smear only	Specimen: Early morning sputum, midstream urine, or other body fluid specimen in sterile screw-capped container
	Performed: M – F, results same day
Botulism	Specimen: Phone Epidemiology Section, (206) 296-4774
Brucella, confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium
	Performed: Sent to State Lab
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i> by APTIMA	Specimen: Endocervical or male urethral swab specimen in APTIMA swab transport tube, or 2 mL of first 20-30 mL of voided urine in APTIMA urine transport tube
	Performed: T, W, F, results in 1 – 2 days
Cholera, confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium
	Performed: Sent to State Lab
Cryptosporidium examination	Specimen: Feces in 10% Formalin vial
	Performed: M – F, results next day
Culture, Acid fast bacillus with smear. Includes DNA probe identification of isolates.	Specimen: Early morning sputum, midstream urine, or other body fluid specimen in sterile screw-capped container. Three specimens collected on successive days is recommended.
	Performed: M – F, smear results same day, culture results in 1 – 8 weeks
Culture, Gonorrhea	Specimen: Order kits from the laboratory, (206) 731-8950
	Performed: M – F, results next day
Culture, Group A streptococcus	Specimen: Throat swab in culturette
	Performed: M – F, results next day
Culture, Group B streptococcus	Specimen: Vaginal and rectal swab in culturette. Screening all pregnant women between 35 and 37 weeks' gestation is recommended.
	Performed: M – F, results in 1 – 2 days
Culture, <i>Haemophilus ducreyi</i>	Specimen: Order kits from the laboratory, (206) 731-8950

	Performed: M – F, results in 2 – 9 days
Culture, Herpes simplex virus	Specimen: Lesion swab in viral transport medium (use dacron swab on plastic or wire shaft) Performed: M – F, results next day
Culture, Pertussis with smear	Specimen: Nasopharyngeal swab in Regan-Lowe transport medium (use dacron swab on wire shaft) and smear on glass slide. Regan-Lowe transport medium, dacron swabs, and glass slides can be obtained from the laboratory, (206) 731-8950 Performed: M – F, smear results same day, culture results in 4 – 12 days
Culture, Stool (Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter, <i>E. coli</i> 0157:H7)	Specimen: Feces in Enteric Pathogen Transport vial Performed: M – F, results in 3 – 5 days
Culture, <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i>	Specimen: Order kits from the laboratory, (206) 731-8950 Performed: M – F, results in 1 – 3 days.
Culture, Virus (adenovirus, cytomegalovirus, enterovirus, herpes simplex, influenza, parainfluenza, respiratory syncytial, varicella zoster)	Specimen: Swab specimen in viral transport medium (use dacron swab on plastic or wire shaft) or urine, stool, cerebrospinal fluid, etc. in sterile screw-capped container Performed: M – F, results 1 – 14 days
Cyclospora, confirmation	Specimen: Feces in 10% Formalin vial Performed: M – F, results next day
Diphtheria, confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium Performed: Sent to State Lab
Disease of suspected bioterrorism origin	Specimen: Phone Epidemiology Section, (206) 296-4774
Enterohemorrhagic <i>Escherichia coli</i> (includes <i>E. coli</i> 0157:H7), confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium Performed: M – F, results in 1 – 3 days
Food bacteriology	Specimen: Phone Epidemiology Section, (206) 296-4774
Gonorrhea, confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium Performed: M – F, results next day
Influenza virus antigen (influenza A, influenza B)	Specimen: Throat or nasopharyngeal swab in viral transport medium (use dacron swab on plastic or wire shaft) Performed: M – F, results same day
Meningococcal disease, confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium Performed: M – F, results in 1 – 3 days
<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> by APTIMA	Specimen: Endocervical or male urethral swab specimen in APTIMA swab transport tube, or 2 mL of first 20-30 mL of voided urine in APTIMA urine transport tube

	Performed: T, W, F, results in 1 – 2 days
Ova and parasites examination	Specimen: Feces in 10% Formalin vial. Three specimens collected every other day is recommended. Performed: M – F, results same day
Pinworm examination	Specimen: Adhesive paddle: order kits from the laboratory, (206) 731-8950 Performed: M – F, results same day
Plague, confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium Performed: Sent to State Lab
Rabies	Specimen: Phone Epidemiology Section, (206) 296-4774
Respiratory syncytial virus antigen	Specimen: Nasopharyngeal swab in viral transport medium (use dacron swab on wire shaft) Performed: M – F, results same day
Salmonella, confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium Performed: M – F, results in 1 – 3 days
Shigella, confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium Performed: M – F, results in 1 – 3 days
Tuberculosis, confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium Performed: Sent to State Lab
Tularemia, confirmation	Specimen: Culture on isolation medium Performed: Sent to State Lab

## B. SEROLOGY

Hepatitis A antibody, IgM (IgM anti-HAV), EIA	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: M, Th, results same day
Hepatitis A antibody (anti-HAV), EIA	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: M, Th, results next day
Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg), EIA. Includes confirmation assay when EIA is repeatably reactive.	Specimen: 2 mL serum (red top) Performed: M, Th, results next day
Hepatitis B surface antibody (anti-HBs), EIA	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: M, Th, results next day
Hepatitis B core antibody, IgM (IgM anti-HBc), EIA	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: M, Th, results same day
Hepatitis B core antibody (anti-HBc), EIA	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: T, F, results same day
Hepatitis C antibody (anti-HCV), EIA	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: T, F, results same day

Herpes simplex type 1 antibody (gG1-specific), IgG, EIA	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: M, Th, results same day
Herpes simplex type 2 antibody, (gG2-specific), IgG, EIA	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: M, Th, results same day
HIV-1 antibody, EIA. Includes WB confirmation assay when EIA is repeatably reactive.	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: M – F, results next day
HIV-1 antibody, confirmation, WB	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: T, F, results same day
Measles antibody, IgM, confirmation	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: Sent to State Lab
Measles antibody, IgG, EIA	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: W, results same day
Mumps antibody, IgG, EIA	Specimen: 1 mL serum (red top) Performed: W, results same day
Rubella antibody, IgG, EIA	Specimen:P 1 mL serum (red top) erformed: W, results same day
Syphilis, RPR, qualitative. If positive, includes RPR, quantitative, and TP-PA.	Specimen:P 1 mL serum (red top) erformed: M – F, results same day
Syphilis, treponemal antibody, TP-PA	Specimen:P 1 mL serum (red top) erformed: T, F, results same day
Syphilis, treponemal antibody, FTA-ABS, CSF	Specimen:P 1 mL cerebrospinal fluid erformed: T, results same day
Syphilis, confirmation, RPR, quantitative. If positive, includes TP-PA.	Specimen:P 1 mL serum (red top) erformed: M, W, F, results same day
Syphilis, VDRL, CSF	Specimen:P 1 mL cerebrospinal fluid erformed: T, Th, results same day
Varicella-zoster virus antibody, IgG, EIA	Specimen:P 1 mL serum (red top) erformed: W, results same day

### C. ENVIRONMENTAL

Water, drinking, total coliforms  
and *E. coli*

Drinking water specimens will be accepted provided such specimens are in containers purchased at the public health laboratory or at public health centers and are received in the laboratory within 30 hours of collection.

Water, *E. coli*

Specimens collected from swimming pools, hot tubs, jacuzzis, spas, etc., will be accepted provided such

specimens are in containers purchased at the public health laboratory or at public health centers and are received in the laboratory within 30 hours of collection.

Water, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

Specimens collected from swimming pools, hot tubs, jacuzzis, spas, etc., will be accepted provided such specimens are in containers purchased at the public health laboratory or at public health centers and are received in the laboratory within 30 hours of collection.